body or board of a Multi-State Co-operative Society, election and audit, settlement of disputes and appeals by quasi-judicial authorities and grant of exemption to the Multi-State Cooperative Societies from any of the provisions of the Act or Rules framed thereunder etc.

**Power projects pending for clearance**

1628. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power projects pending with Government for final clearance;

(b) the details thereof, with the date of receipt, stage of consideration, the status and the final decision, if any;

(c) whether Government have decided to liberalise the norms for granting clearance to projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) A total of 38 power projects including one hydro power project are awaiting environmental clearance as on 30th November, 1996.

(b) Assessment of the projects referred for environmental clearance is completed within a period of 90 days from receipt of requisite documents and data from the project authorities and decision is conveyed within 30 days thereafter. Duration of pendency of 38 power projects varies between one month to one year due to normal processing and non submission of requisite environmental data and Management Plan in some cases.

(c) and (d) Modalities for delegation of powers to State Governments for according environmental clearance to thermal power projects are under finalisation.

**Implementation of Mid-day meal scheme**

1629. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mid-day meal scheme is being implemented in all the States of the country;

(b) if not, the States where this scheme is not being implemented and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would issue directives to these States in this regard;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented in those States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

**Clearance of Worli-Bandra Free-way**

1630. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Worli-Bandra Freeway is pending approval since 1993;

(b) if so, the details of the bottlenecks involved; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to get clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Environmental Impact Assessment Report for Construction of first phase of Worli-Bandra Link project was received for environmental clearance from the Bombay Metropolitan Region Development Authority in July 1994. After examination of this proposal it was decided that unless a comprehensive Environmental clearance to the project. The project proponents were informed accordingly.

(c) A decision on environmental clearance is taken within 90 days of receipt of complete information from a project proponent.

**Railway overbridge at Kalyan**

1631. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present position in respect of the construction of the Railway overbridge at Kalyan (Karjat end);